

dark throats and red foreheads, the male with a conspicuous red patch on his breast.

It might also be of interest to note that the Scaup Duck (*Aythya marila*), found quite abundantly on the Magdalens by both Rev. C. J. Young and the Rev. H. K. Job, on their visits to the Islands, were this year no where to be found and the islanders could not account for their sudden disappearance.—J. P. CALLENDER, *Summit, N. J.*

**Nesting of the Junco in Eastern Massachusetts.**—On May 25, 1905, in the Middlesex Fells, near the Medford border, I ran across a pair of Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) with food in their bills. I watched them and the female soon went to the nest. It was situated under the edge of a tussock of grass, in an open space in the woods, and contained four well-grown young.

The nearest breeding record I have yet found is Fitchburg, mentioned by Messrs. Howe and Allen in their 'Birds of Massachusetts.—R. S. EUSTIS, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Possible Breeding of Junco hyemalis in Essex County, Mass.**—On Sept. 2, 1905, I saw at Boxford, Mass., a young Junco in the juvenal plumage, with streaked back, breast, and belly. The bird was not taken, but I watched it for five minutes, part of the time within ten feet, and fully identified it. Dr. C. W. Townsend (Birds of Essex County) mentions seeing a Junco at Groveland, Mass. (just north of Boxford), Sept. 3, 1904, but he tells me that it was identified from an electric car, and he does not know whether it was an adult or an immature bird. These dates are much earlier than any migration dates known to me. Messrs. Howe and Allen (Birds of Massachusetts) give Sept. 18 as the earliest fall date, and Dr. Townsend gives Sept. 26 for Essex County. As far as I can learn, moreover, the Junco has never been taken in the first plumage at any distance from its breeding grounds, and Dr. G. M. Allen writes me that he has no breeding records for this bird from Southeastern New Hampshire. It is almost impossible, too, that the Boxford bird could have been one of the brood raised in the Middlesex Fells last summer, and recorded by Mr. R. S. Eustis in this number of 'The Auk', for Boxford is some eighteen miles from that locality and nearly due north. All these facts seem to point to the conclusion that the Junco may prove to be at least an occasional, though doubtless an extremely rare, breeder in Eastern Massachusetts.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

**The Lark Sparrow in Massachusetts.**—On August 12, 1905, at Ipswich, Massachusetts, I observed at close range a Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). This makes the sixth record of this species for the State, and the fourth for Essex County. Nearly a year before this, on August 21, 1904, I took at Ipswich an adult male Lark Sparrow (Birds